

Account No. 03-1240.

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated May 19, 2003, the Examiner noted that claims 1-10 are allowed and claim 12 is objected as being dependent upon a rejected claim 11, but that "it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." See Office Action of May 19, 2003, ¶¶ 3 and 4. Claims 11, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bunin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,923,803.) The Office Action issued on May 18, 2003 and the rejection contained therein were made final.

The allowed claims 1-10 remain unchanged in this application. Claims 12 is rewritten in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion as an independent claim, and claim 13 is rewritten to depend from the allowed claim 1. Claims 11 and 14 are cancelled by this Amendment. Therefore, the applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended herein, is respectfully requested. In the event that this Amendment is not entered, and with respect to the subject matter that is rejected by the Examiner, the applicant encloses a Notice of Appeal.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version, captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made," showing changes made to the claims and specification by the current amendment. Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment and an early favorable action on the merits.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 in an envelope addressed to:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231
DATE: November 18, 2003

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Respectfully submitted,

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November 18, 2003

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Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

12. (Twice Amended) An The optical ferrule comprising a ferrule body,
wherein a concave portion is formed for confirming confirmation factors such as a
material of said ferrule body or sorts of optical fiber held in said ferrule body; and
~~according to claim 11, wherein~~ said concave portion is formed in a flange portion of said
ferrule body, and a gate for resin molding is disposed in said concave portion.

13. (Twice Amended) The optical ferrule according to claim ~~11~~ 1,
wherein said concave portion is formed at a portion other than a flange portion of said
ferrule body.